**Removal of manual scavenging**

2464. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the concern of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India for removing manual scavenging from India;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Hon'ble Prime Minister had called meeting of concerned Ministers to know progress and find out solution on the inhuman practice; and

(c) if so, the details of the actions to be taken by his Ministry and others too?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) On 5th July, 2006 the Prime Minister took a meeting of the concerned Ministers on Abolition of Scavenging in the country.

(c) The State Government have been impressed upon to implement the ongoing schemes effectively.

**Decline in profit earned by HUDCO**

2465. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that profit earned by HUDCO during 2005-06 has been reduced by 30 per cent;

(b) whether it is also a fact that during the current year the earning of HUDCO is also low in the first half of financial year, if so, what is net profit/ loss during this period; and

(c) the action Government propose to take to improve its functioning affecting loss in its earning and to earn profit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir. During 2005-06 the profit of HUDCO has been reduced. The profit after tax for 2004-05 and 2005-06 is as under:

| | |
|---|---|
| Profit after tax (2004-05) (After adjustment of tax for earlier years) | Rs. 396.77 crores |

Profit after tax (2005-06) Rs. 260.24 crores
(After adjustment of tax for earlier years)

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. During the first half of the current year, the earning of HUDCO is lower. The Profit after tax of HUDCO (as on 30-9-2006 as per Limited Review) is Rs. 46.99 crores. The performance of the HUDCO has been reviewed by the Competent Authority to improve its functioning affecting loss in its profit earning. The decrease in profit of HUDCO in comparison to last year *i.e.* 2004-05 is mainly due to decrease in interest income on account of reset of loans and prepayments received during 2004-05 and 2005-06. Further, loans under HUDCO Niwas, reset/ prepayment of bulk loan during financial year 2004-05 and 2005-06 had major impact. In addition, decrease in other income on account of prepayment charges also had a major impact. Constant monitoring of defaults of HUDCO loan has been undertaken with various State Governments/Govt. agencies at different levels and this has shown some positive results.

**Employment and poverty alleviation schemes for Chhattisgarh and M.P.**

†2466. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes implemented for employment and poverty alleviation in urban areas;

(b) since when these schemes are implemented;

(c) the amount spent during each of the last three years in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh under these schemes; and

(d) the details of the number increased or decreased in respect of the people living below Poverty line in urban areas during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) With a view to ameliorate the living conditions of the urban poor, an employment-oriented Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Poverty Alleviation named Swarna Jayanti

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.